



# City of Annapolis

Recreation and Parks Department  
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## Recreation Advisory Board November 13, 2013

The Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) of the City of Annapolis held its regularly scheduled meeting on November 13, 2013 at the Roger "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center and **Chair** Hamill called the meeting to order at 7:11p.m.

**Present:** **Chair** Hamill, **Vice Chair** Moyer, Lowman, B. Moyer, Aist, Hughes, Nelson

**Absent:** Harrison, Jones, Montgomery, Rankin

**Staff:** Woodward

**Guest:** Debbie Rankin – Montgomery Parks Foundation

### **II. October 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Hughes moved approval of the October 9, 2013 meeting minutes as written. Mr. Lowman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 7-0.

### **III. Regular Business Before the Board**

#### **1. Presentation – Montgomery Parks Foundation**

**Chair** Hamill welcomed Ms. Debbie Rankin, Executive Director, who was invited to the meeting to discuss the Montgomery Park Foundation. She explained that RAB have been discussing the possibility of establishing a Parks Foundation in order to accept donated money to be earmarked for parks and that is not a part of the City funds. The RAB has been researching what other jurisdictions are doing in this area.

Ms. Rankin provided background explaining that the Montgomery Parks Foundation is a nonprofit organization established by the Planning Board in 1992 to give residents an opportunity to support the parks. Ms. Rankin was hired in 2009 to reestablish an inactive foundation and reports directly to the Director of Parks of MNCPPC. Montgomery Parks Foundation began with no staff or money but have raised \$700,000 to date. The Foundation solicits funds from private donors to enhance the government support. Over the past 10 years, the Foundation has added 4,000 acres and 60 new parks with facilities. Ms. Rankin operates under a governing body that includes the Recreation and Park, Planning Commission and the County Council. She noted that at its onset, the Foundation Board consisted primarily of developers but has since then transitioned to a diversity of members to include a State Delegate, Art and Humanity Head, and a representative from Pepco. There are currently 11 Board members. Ms. Rankin provided the RAB with a copy of the Foundation Annual Report and brochures.

#### **2. Director's Report to the Board**

Mr. Woodward reported that the City was recognized as a Let's Move City that is part of the Michelle Obama program. The Recreation and Parks will be receiving a plaque from Ms. Obama. He reported on the Frankenfest Run noting that there were 50 midshipmen volunteers at the event. He also reported on the Mindful Help, the Hispanic Center at the Heritage Cultural Festival, Truxtun natural surface trail and path restoration efforts. He noted that Greenscape was successful and the Department is in the process of preparing its capital and operating budgets. There is an interested group of citizens

organizing to establish a skate park and are considering the concept of Skate Spots (putting one or two elements of skating in the parks for an attraction). The Department hosted the Pathway Opportunities Program from HACA. The Department was awarded the supper food grant so Title 1 students will be receiving supper as well as snack foods. The Summer and Latch Key programs are now accredited for childcare. The Department's total income for the year is \$90,000 more than at this time last year.

**a. Mayoral Election**

The Board briefly discussed the Mayoral election.

**b. Advisory Board Public Meeting**

**Chair** Hamill reminded members of the public meeting scheduled for Wednesday November 20, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Center to solicit public input on concerns/issues regarding the Recreation Center and its programs. Mr. Lowman discussed concerns raised by the volleyball league regarding the program membership fees that are in addition to the cost team costs. He indicated that there has been discussion among the league of leaving the Center as the result of the costs. Mr. Woodward plans to provide an agenda and a flip chart available to identify the bullet points of the discussion. The meeting will be recorded and concerns documented for future use. The RAB agreed to compile and discuss the issues/concerns raised at the December meeting.

Mr. Lowman reiterated that the volleyball league has expressed concerns regarding the program membership fees that are in addition to the rental fees and noted that the league plans to attend the public meeting. The RAB tabled the discussion to the December 11, 2013 meeting in order for Mr. Woodward to compile a response to this concern.

**IV. New Business**

**Rain Garden Maintenance**

Mr. Lowman and some Recreation staff members will maintenance the rain garden.

**V. Old Business**

There was none.

**VII. Adjournment**

Mr. Hughes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. Ms. Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 7-0. **The next meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2013 at the PMRC at 7:00pm.**

Tami Hook, Recorder